Blind River District
Draft
Fisheries Management Plan
1989 - 2000

Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

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Minister

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BLIND RIVER DISTRICT DRAFT FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREFACE

The Ministry of Natural Resources objective in Fisheries Management is to protect, enhance, maintain and rehabilitate fish communities and their environment in order to provide an optimum contribution of fish, fishing opportunities and their associated benefits to society.

The Blind River District Fisheries Management Plan is being prepared in order to provide specific direction on how the District's fisheries resource is to be managed to the year 2000. The following Draft Fisheries Management Plan represents the second formal document produced as part of the management planning exercise. This document contains information regarding the fisheries resource in the district. In addition, it outlines the problems and issues affecting the resource and the Ministry's proposed management strategies and tactics. The document also includes a schedule for strategies and tactics to be implemented over the next seven years through annual work plans. Another implementation schedule will be developed for the remaining five year portion of the management period.

This draft plan has been prepared with consideration to the broad management direction provided in the Strategic Land Use Plan for Northeastern Ontario (SLUP) and the Blind River District Land Use Guidelines (DLUG). Additional direction has been provided by the Lake Huron Strategic Fisheries Management Plan.

In developing this draft plan, MNR carefully considered the public input it received regarding the Fisheries Management Plan Background Information and Optional Strategies and Tactics document presented in December of 1987.

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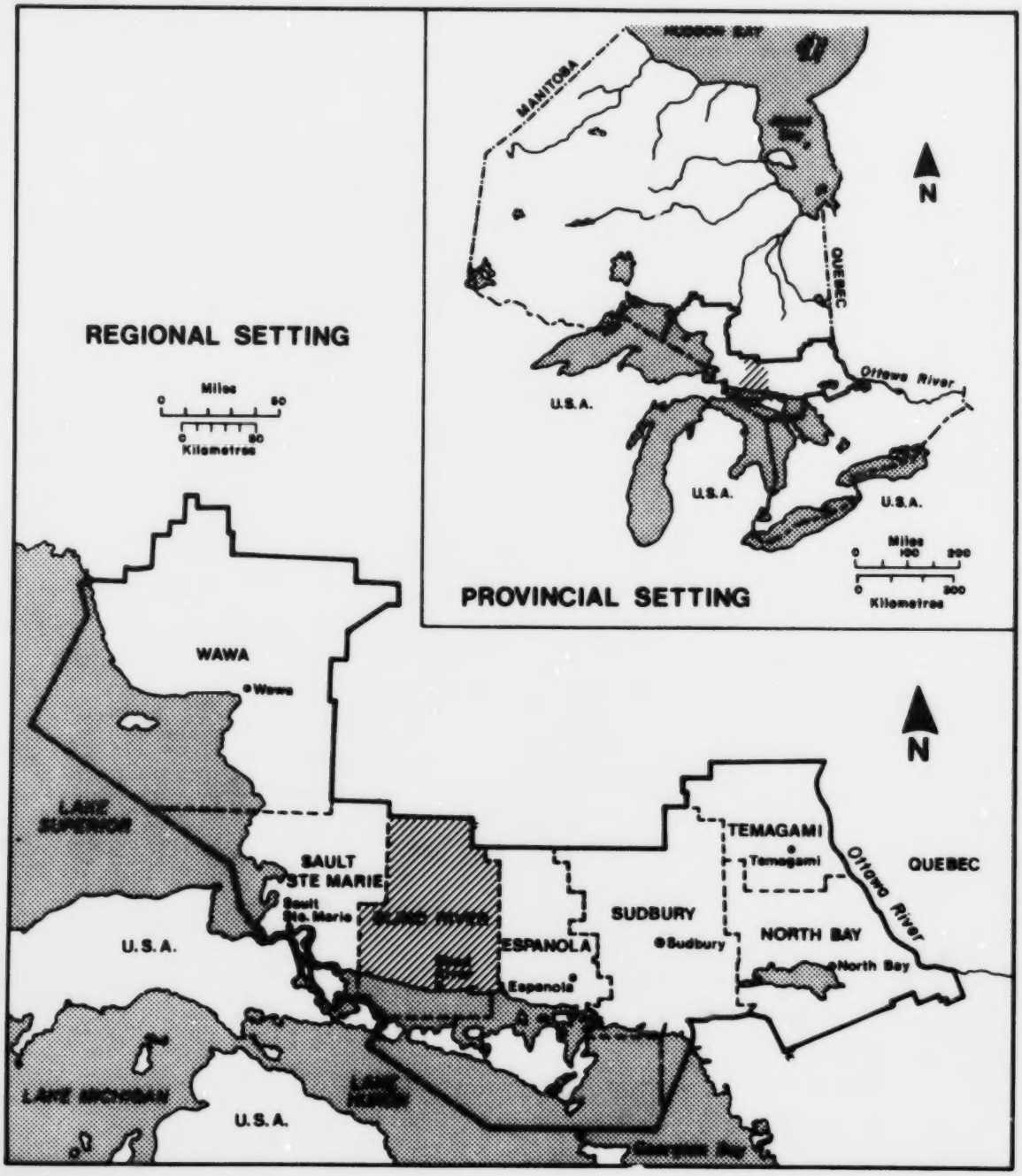
Map 1
PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL SETTING OF BLIND RIVER DISTRICT



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Blind River District Fisheries Management Plan is to provide managers with specific direction for the management of all fisheries resources in the District for the period 1989-2000. The document will also serve to inform the public of the Ministry's planned resource management objectives and activities.

TECHNICAL DIRECTION

Technical direction for the formation of the District Fisheries Management Plan has come largely from the Strategic Plan for Ontario Fisheries (SPOF) and MNR's Planning Manual for District Fisheries Management Plans.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Blind River District Fisheries Management Plan is being prepared within MNR's Corporate Planning System. Basic direction for plan preparation came from the Strategic Land Use Plan (SLUP) for Northeastern Ontario, the Blind River District Land Use Guidelines (DLUG) and the Draft Lake Huron Strategic Fisheries Management Plan. These documents identify broad objectives and targets for Fisheries Management in the District. The District Fisheries Management Plan will provide precise statements of how the fisheries resource is to be managed in order to achieve the stated objectives and targets. Both short and long term strategies and tactics for objective achievement will be identified in the Fisheries Management Plan. In addition, the plan will outline a schedule for implementation of specific strategies and tactics over the next seven years.

The Fisheries Management Planning Process conforms with the direction provided in the "Framework for Resource Management Planning in MNR" produced by Policy and Planning Secretariat in 1986. There are a number of steps in development of the plan including the following:

(1) Completion of the Terms of Reference which indicated what was to be accomplished, who would be involved and the general sequence of planning events.

(2) Collection and analysis of Fisheries Information which permitted identification of problems and issues, and confirmation and refinement of fisheries targets.

(3) Identification of Optional Management Strategies and Tactics to resolve identified problems and issues.

(4) Preparation of Background Information and Optional Management Strategies and Tactics Document.

(5) Internal and Public review of Background Information and Optional Management Strategies and Tactics Document.

(6) Preparation of Draft Fisheries Management Plan based on results of previous public consultation.

(7) Public review of Draft Fisheries Management Plan.

(8) Refinement and preparation of final Fisheries Management Plan.

(9) Approval of Fisheries Management Plan.

(10) Public notice that final Fisheries Plan has been approved.

Throughout the development of the Fisheries Management Plan, it has been recognized that some modification to the provisions of the District Land Use Guidelines may be required as a result of new information or changes in desired management direction.

Specific DLUG amendment requirements will be highlighted throughout the draft document. The District Fisheries Management Plan serves as an important reference in all resource management planning activities undertaken in the District. Furthermore, the plan and its implementation schedule will provide important direction for the district enforcement plan by identifying requirements for enforcement and deficiencies in the enforcement program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A number of information sources were used in developing this Draft Fisheries Management Plan including the following:

(1) Strategic Land Use Plan for Northeastern Ontario / Blind River District Land Use Guidelines - for objectives and targets for fisheries management and general management direction.

(2) Terms of Reference - which identified generally what was to to be accomplished, who would be involved in the planning process and approximately when each step would be completed.

(3) Detailed Background Information - for detailed information regarding fisheries in the District.

(4) Background Information and Optional Management Strategies and Tactics Document - which summarized the above information, described problems and issues in fisheries management and proposed strategies and tactics for problem and issue resolution.

(5) Summary of Public Response to Background Document - response the Ministry received to its public consultation efforts following background document preparation.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public Consultation is an integral part of the Fisheries Management Planning Process. Following completion of the "Background Information and Optional Management Strategies and Tactics Document", the Ministry initiated a process of public consultation in order to elicit reaction to the Background information and proposed management strategies.

Detailed results of the public consultation are found in a report entitled "Summary of Public Consultation, Background Information and Optional Management Strategies and Tactics, Blind River District Fisheries Management Plan, 1987 - 2000", which is available for viewing at the Blind River District Office.

In developing this Draft Fisheries Management Plan, very careful consideration has been given to the result of this public consultation.

2.0 DISTRICT FISHERIES PERSPECTIVE

THE RESOURCES

The Blind River Administrative District is located in the central part of the Ministry of Natural Resources' Northeastern Region (Map 1) and is located about midway between Sault Ste. Marie and Espanola along the North Channel of Lake Huron. The District covers an area of 11,225 square kilometers which is comprised of 2,897 km^2 of water and 8,329 km^2 of land (Map 2).

Glaciation has played a major role in modifying the landscape. Shallow soils predominate the broken uplands of the central portion of the District. The southwest portion of the District contains deep sand and clay plains which are a result of post-glacial lake and river action. In other areas, deeper soils are found along well defined river valleys and alluvial plains. The local topography and drainage are influenced by the underlying Precambrian Shield bedrock which dominates the District's geology. Only the southernmost islands in the North Channel contain rocks of a more recent age. The southern part of the District has a complex geology of metasedimentary rocks and igneous intrusions whereas the northern portion consists primarily of granites and other igneous rocks.

The climate of the District is moderated by the effects of the Great Lakes. January mean temperatures average -11° C with the July mean temperatures averaging 19° C. Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year, averaging 81 cm.

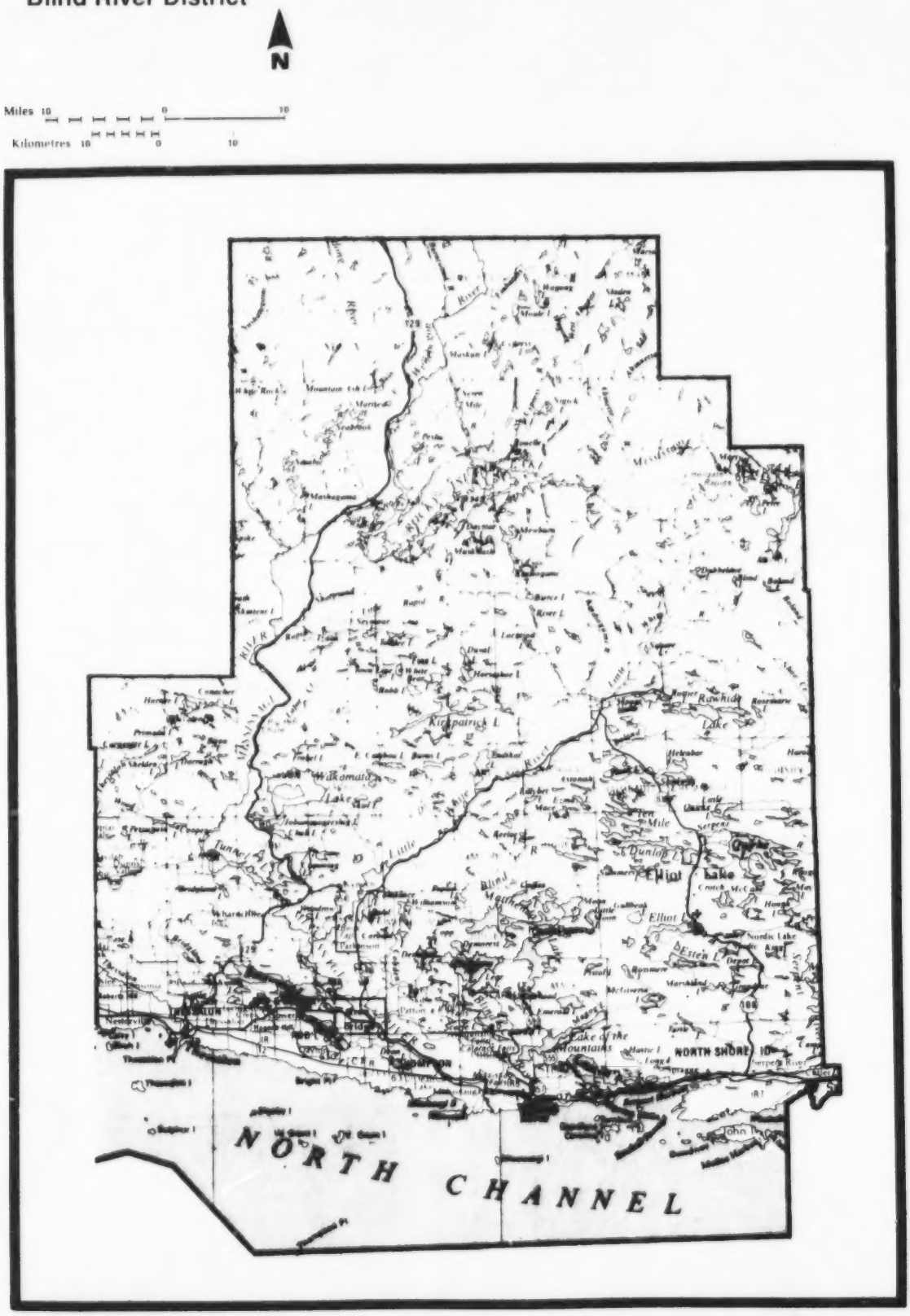
Blind River District has a population of approximately 30,000 people. The Town of Elliot Lake is the major urban center with a population of about 20,000. The Towns of Blind River and Thessalon and the Village of Iron Bridge are secondary centers with the remaining population distributed in smaller hamlets and rural areas throughout the southern part of the District.

There are three Indian Reserves in the District, all of which are located along the North Channel. From west to east these consist of the Thessalon (I.R. 12), Mississagi (I.R. 8) Serpent River (I.R. 7) Indian Reserves.

The major drainage system in the District is the Mississagi River and its tributaries. The Blind, Thessalon and Serpent Rivers provide the remaining major drainage for the District. Each of these river systems flow into the North Channel of Lake Huron.

There are 4,379 inland lakes in the District with a combined area of about 92,200 hectares (ha). Many inland lakes contain coldwater trout species. The District contains 231 known lake trout lakes and 447 brook trout lakes. In contrast, there are fewer lakes known to contain walleye (45 lakes), smallmouth bass (73 lakes) and northern pike (138 lakes). The major cold and warmwater rivers comprise an additional 2,700 hectares of water area important for fish production. The waters of the North Channel of Lake Huron comprise 194,800 ha or 67% of the District's total water surface area. Some of the fish species of importance in the North Channel include lake whitefish, northern pike, smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch and pacific salmon.

Map 2
Blind River District



Private cottages and commercial recreational facilities are established on most of the larger lakes, particularly in the southern part of the District. Commercial tourism is an important economic activity. Approximately 50 main base lodges and 110 fly-in outpost camps, many of which rely on sport fishing, are located here.

RESOURCE USE

Sport Fish

The current sport fishing pressure is estimated at 234,750 angler-days for Blind River District; an angler-day is considered to be four hours of fishing by one angler (Table 1). Of this total, the inland waters contribute approximately 220,000 angler-days per year.

The most sought after species in the inland water are trout species including lake trout, brook trout, splake and rainbow trout. Blind River District is particularly known for its lake trout fishing as it has about 10 percent of the Provincial supply (Table 1). However, walleye and other species such as northern pike, river run salmon, smallmouth bass and yellow perch also contribute significantly to the supply of angling opportunities.

The angling pressure on the North Channel waters of the District is considerably lighter than on inland waters and is estimated to be 14,750 angler-days per year. At present, the majority of the angling activity in the North Channel is concentrated in the near-shore areas where bays and islands offer some protection from wind. The majority of this angling pressure is directed at species such as walleye, northern pike, yellow perch and smallmouth bass. Very little pressure is attributable to pacific salmon and trout (in the open waters) in the North Channel, since pacific salmon are recent introductions and lake trout back-cross are present in low numbers.

Potential exists for an explosive increase in the salmon fishery in the next few years. At present the majority of the salmon fishing occurs during the spawning run when the fish are near river mouths or travel up rivers such as the Bridgland (Little Thessalon) and Mississagi.

Commercial Fishing

A viable commercial fishery exists in the North Channel. The Town of Blind River is the major fishing port along the Channel's northern shore. Provincially the commercial fish industry has recently undergone a modernization process whereby commercial harvest is regulated through quota management. Quotas are assigned on a zonal basis and then allocated among all commercial fishermen operating within the zone. The quotas are based, in part, on the past harvest records of the commercial fishermen. In 1985 there were 11 commercial licenses issued in Blind River District. Of these, nine were gillnet licenses and two were gillnet - trapnet combinations. The total 1985 quota allocated (all species) for commercial fishermen licensed in the District was 268,918 kg. In 1986, the quota assigned to Blind River fishermen was 298,206 kg. Whitefish is the mainstay of the commercial fishery in the Channel; other important species are yellow perch, walleye, sturgeon and pink salmon. A pink salmon quota of 28,141 kg. was assigned in 1986 due to the increasing numbers of this species.

TABLE 1 - FISH PRODUCTION AND HARVEST FOR THE BLIND RIVER DISTRICT

	Current Use (a) (b)		Projected Use		Allowable Yield	Year 2000 Target	
	Ang.-days	Harvest (kg)	Ang.-days	Harvest (kg)	Harvest (kg)	Ang.-days	Harvest (kg)
A. SPORT FISHERY							
Inland Waters							
Trout		-	135,500	67,700	39,600	82,400	41,200 (f)
Walleye		-	61,600	30,800	17,950	39,600	19,800 (f)
Other		-	49,300	24,700	55,200	111,900	55,950 (f)
Total	220,00	-	246,400	123,200	112,750	233,900 (g)	116,950 (g)
North Channel							
Lake Huron							
Trout / Salmon		-			68,000 (c)		
Walleye		-			7,192		
Other		-			24,404.(d)		
Total	14,750	-	29,500	29,500	99,596	42,000 (h)	35,750 (h)
DISTRICT TOTAL							
(Sport Fishery)	234,750		275,900	152,700		275,900	152,700
B. COMMERCIAL FISHERY							
(Food)	11lic.	298,206 (e)		298,206 (e)	298,206 (e)		298,206 (e)
C. COMMERCIAL FISHERY							
(Bait)	34 lic.	21,173 doz		23,700 doz			23,700 doz

(a) Based on district creel surveys.
(b) One angler-day equals 4 hours of fishing by one angler.
(c) Potential production from a rehabilitated North Channel.
(d) North Channel Allowable yield for northern pike, smallmouth bass, yellow perch and muskellunge.
(e) 1986 quota allocation for Blind River commercial fishermen for the entire North Channel.
(f) Assumes increases in production due to future planned fish introductions.
(g) There is an estimated shortfall of 12,500 angler-days and 6,250 kg for the inland waters sport fishery based on present information in order to meet the year 2000 projected demand. This shortfall will be further reduced if future surveys identify waterbodies suitable for introductions.
(h) The North Channel target is established to satisfy the projected North Channel angler demand and also includes an additional 12,500 angler-days and harvest of 6,250 kg of fish needed in order to alleviate the shortfall in the inland waters target.

Baitfish Fishery

In 1985 there were 34 baitfish harvesting licenses issued. These licenses covered harvesting operations in 153 one-quarter township blocks; 9 of these licenses also covered waters not described on a one-quarter township block system. Licensing on a block system is a recent procedure initiated by the District and eventually, all licensing will be done on this basis. A total of 21,173 dozen baitfish were harvested in 1985.

Native Subsistence Fishery

The exact harvest magnitude of the native subsistence fishery for the three Indian Reserves in the District is unknown. Negotiations continue, at both the Provincial and Federal levels, to address native fisheries related issues.

Non-Consumptive Fishery

Fish spawning runs attract people who are interested only in watching fish behavior during this phase of their life cycle. In addition, fish hatcheries also attract people who are interested in viewing fish and hatchery operations. It is currently unknown how many people engage in these activities and whether participation will change in the future.

PROJECTED RESOURCE USE

Sport Fishing

The present estimated angling pressure of 220,000 angler-days for inland waters is expected to increase an average of 12 percent by the year 2000. Some areas may see greater increases in demand, while others will see lower increases. Therefore, the number of angler-days is expected to increase to 246,400. The species preferences used in the background summary for calculating projected demand were as follows:

- 45 % of anglers prefer trout (trout species include lake trout, brook trout, rainbow trout and splake);
- 30 % prefer walleye; and
- 25 % prefer other species

However, the results of the questionnaire in the background summary document revealed that in fact 55 percent of the anglers in the District prefer trout, 25 percent prefer walleye and 20 percent prefer other species. The values for projected use shown in Table 1 have been adjusted from those presented in the background summary to reflect these preferences.

The yield required to meet projected demand (Table 1) was determined by using the projected angling effort and a quality standard of 0.5 kg. per angler-day. This of course is an average standard. Many experienced anglers will harvest fish considerably above this level while others will be well below it. The projected demand for trout species from inland waters cannot be met within the present capabilities of the resource. The supply of trout is expected to fall short by about 28,000 kg./yr. Similarly, the present production capabilities for walleye, falls short of the amount necessary to meet projected demand by about 13,000 kg/yr. The projected demand for other species

including northern pike, smallmouth bass, muskellunge, yellow perch, lake whitefish and sturgeon is well below the present potential supply.

Based on present information, the shortfall in trout and walleye can be reduced by 1,600 kg. and 1,850 kg. respectively through future planned introductions. Promoting the fishing of other species such as northern pike, smallmouth bass, yellow perch and lake whitefish of which there is a surplus will also help reduce the overall shortfall from inland waters. Every attempt will be made to further reduce any remaining shortfall in trout and walleye, by employing such tactics as conducting surveys to identify waterbodies suitable for introductions. Based on present information pertaining to resource capability and future planned introductions, the inland waters can supply 233,900 angler days angling opportunity with a harvest of 116,950 kg. of fish.

These figures fall short of the year 2000 projected demand by 12,500 angler-days and 6,250 kg. of fish. However, this shortfall can be made up by directing more angling activity to the North Channel.

The present estimated angling pressure on the North Channel is 14,750 angler-days per year. The future angling demand on this water is difficult to predict, but will likely increase substantially. Assuming an increase in angling pressure of 100%, the projected angling pressure by the year 2000 would be 29,500 kg. angler-days. Applying a quality standard of 1 kg./angler-day, the projected demand for all sport fish will be 29,500 kg. The North Channel harvest target is set at 35,750 kg. of sport fish in order to satisfy the projected demand from anglers and also to satisfy the additional harvest of sport fish. This is expected to occur, from directing inland water anglers to the North Channel, because of the 6,250 kg. shortfall in the inland water target. Table 1 indicates an allocation to the sport fishery of 99,596 kg. for all species. Therefore, the supply of angling opportunities is well above the projected demand.

Commercial Fishing

Quotas have now been established for specific species and zones based on the best available information and technology. The development of species quotas for the commercial fishing industry has resulted in a 1986 allocation of 298,206 kg. of fish. Future levels of commercial harvest will reflect both available fish stocks, species composition and market demands.

Baitfish Fishery

The demand for baitfish is expected to increase approximately 12 percent by the year 2000, similar to the anticipated increase in angling demand. Therefore, the present harvest of about 21,000 dozen is estimated to increase to 24,000 dozen by the year 2000.

PROBLEMS AND ISSUES

There are numerous problems and issues affecting the fisheries resource and its management in Blind River District. A review of the background information and analysis of public response has identified the major problems. These problems must be dealt with if our objectives and targets are to be effectively met. The major problems are described below.

Exploitation

The removal of fish from a waterbody for sport or commercial purposes is referred to as exploitation; when in excess, it is a significant problem facing resource managers.

The problem takes two forms. First, the District may be incapable of producing enough fish of a desired species to satisfy the current or anticipated demand for the species due to lack of suitable fish habitat. For example, the present quantity of walleye produced in inland waters in Blind River District is insufficient to meet both present and projected demand for the species. By the year 2000, the demand for walleye is expected to exceed the present production capability by about 13,000 kg. per year. Similarly, the projected demand for the trout species from inland waters is expected to exceed current production capability by about 28,000 kg. per year by the year 2000.

Exploitation also becomes a problem if too many fish are removed from a particular waterbody (overfishing). The result is diminished species productivity. Overfishing can, and probably does affect many different species in Blind River District. However, one species in particular, the lake trout, is highly sensitive to the stress of fishing pressure. With 231 known lake trout lakes, angling for lake trout has become a very popular activity here and many District waters are fished very heavily.

A number of factors contribute to the problem of exploitation. One of these is increased access to a lake. Inaccessible lakes are in many ways protected from high fishing pressure. However, once a lake is road accessible, the number of anglers using it may increase dramatically and subsequently, the lake's fish population may be depleted. In contrast, lack of road access may mean that a potentially important fishery is unavailable to most anglers.

Illegal fish harvest activities, such as catching over the legal limit, fishing out of season or in a sanctuary, fishing with restricted gear such as set lines or too many lines, can all result in additional fishing stress in a species. In many instances, illegal fishing activities occur during spawning periods and can result in a loss of brood stock, leading to long term negative effects.

Underuse of a number of species is also an aspect of the exploitation problem. Currently northern pike, smallmouth bass, yellow perch and lake whitefish are underused.

Another problem related to exploitation is that Blind River District does not currently provide adequately for non-consumptive uses of fish such as observing fish behavior during spawning periods or at fish rearing facilities. It is recognized that provision for these types of activities are desired by a number of people.

User Conflicts

Conflicts exist between a variety of groups using the fishery resources. For example, conflicts exist between the following groups:

(a) sport anglers and commercial fishermen
(b) summer anglers and winter anglers
(c) local anglers and tourist industry
(d) sport anglers and native fishermen
(e) tourist industry and resource extraction industries

Generally, these conflicts result from direct or perceived competition for a limited resource. Another source of conflict stems from the provision of road access to remote waterbodies, resulting in loss of tourist appeal and aesthetics as remote fly-in fisheries. The loss of remoteness can have a significant effect on the ability of the tourist industry to market fishing in a particular location.

Habitat Loss or Degradation

This includes both the loss or degradation of features such as spawning beds and nursery areas as well as the impairment of water quality.

One of the major sources of environmental deterioration in Blind River District came from the activities of the uranium mines in the Elliot Lake area. Leaching from tailings areas into lakes and rivers of the Serpent River watershed led to the elimination of some lake trout fisheries (e.g. Quirke, May, McCabe, Hough, and Nordic Lakes) in the early years of mining operation.

Shoreline development can result in potentially harmful effects on the aquatic environment. Timber harvesting operations near lakes and rivers can also seriously impact fisheries habitat by physically altering the shoreline through mechanical disturbances and the removal of vegetation. In addition, the activities of hydro power production facilities can also result in fish habitat destruction or degradation.

There has been increased interest in recent years by the private sector to develop small scale hydro electric generating sites. The rivers that have been considered recently include the Blind, Bridgeland (Little Thessalon) and Serpent Rivers. Developments of this nature can have a significant impact on fish habitat.

Inadequate Fisheries Information

In order to effectively manage the fisheries resource, the manager must have access to a good data base.

More information is required about use of and demand for the resource, productivity, long-term yields, species interactions, stream fisheries and the effectiveness of fish stocking.

Undesirable Exotic Species Introduction

Introductions of non-native and undesirable species of fish can have a significant effect on a lake's fishery and can occur both intentionally and unintentionally. Intentional introduction occurs when an individual captures a species of fish and transports it to another waterbody to which it is not native. Unintentional introduction occurs when anglers dump bait buckets containing live bait into a lake. Both actions can result in undesirable fish populations spreading throughout entire watersheds. This can lead to reduction or elimination of a desirable species through competition for food, habitat, and through predation.

Lack of Public Awareness

Increased public awareness of fundamental fisheries management concepts and issues is important to the success of our management efforts. Greater public understanding of fish species introduction, lake carrying capacity, the relative merits of artificial stocking, lake rehabilitation and development of self-sustaining fish populations is

necessary. Misconceptions regarding fisheries management can result in unrealistic expectations about resource capacity and angling success.

3.0 MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

INTRODUCTION

The Blind River District has been divided into zones for the purposes of fisheries management. In addition to identifying these zones, this section of the plan also outlines the broad and specific management objectives and targets. It presents the strategies and tactics that have been selected to resolve the major identified problems and to achieve the long term year 2000 fisheries objectives and targets.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

The zones were established to reflect similarities in lake productivity, fish species composition, land tenure, proximity to population centres, accessibility, and present and historical fish use patterns. There are eight zones in the District (Map 3).

Zone 1: North Channel of Lake Huron

This area represents that portion of the North Channel which lies within Blind River District. The North Channel is characterized by a complex community of cold and warm water species. Patented land comprises the majority of the Channel's north shoreline, while islands are primarily public land. The area is easily accessible from all major population centres in the District and has a long history of commercial food fish production. Inshore sport fishing has also been important historically and continues to expand further into the North Channel. Changes in fish communities have been dramatic in the past.

This zone offers the greatest potential within the District, for developing fishing opportunities. Management of the North Channel occurs within a framework of lakewide policy because of the number of MNR Districts affected.

Zone 2: Highway 108, Upper 546 and 639 Corridors

This management zone is comprised of a corridor in the southeast corner of Blind River District paralleling Highways 108, upper 546 and 639. The Waters in this zone are predominantly cold and unproductive trout lakes. In addition to the 60 lake trout and 79 brook trout lakes there are 29 lakes containing pike, walley and smallmouth bass. A large amount of patented land exists in the area adjacent to the Town of Elliot Lake, however, public land still predominates. The only developed Provincial Park in Blind River District is found in Zone 2. Most lakes in the area are readily accessible from Elliot Lake by road, snowmachine or A.T.V. The Town of Elliot Lake is a current source of heavy fishing pressure.

Up until the 1950's, an important fly-in fishery existed in the southern portion of this zone while a drive-in fishery existed along Highway 546. In subsequent years, the Serpent River system experienced severe environmental degradation as a result of early uranium mining and milling practices. In more recent times considerable rehabilitation of degraded waters has occured. Tourist lodges continue to be an important component, particularly in the north half of this zone.

Map 3
BLIND RIVER DISTRICT

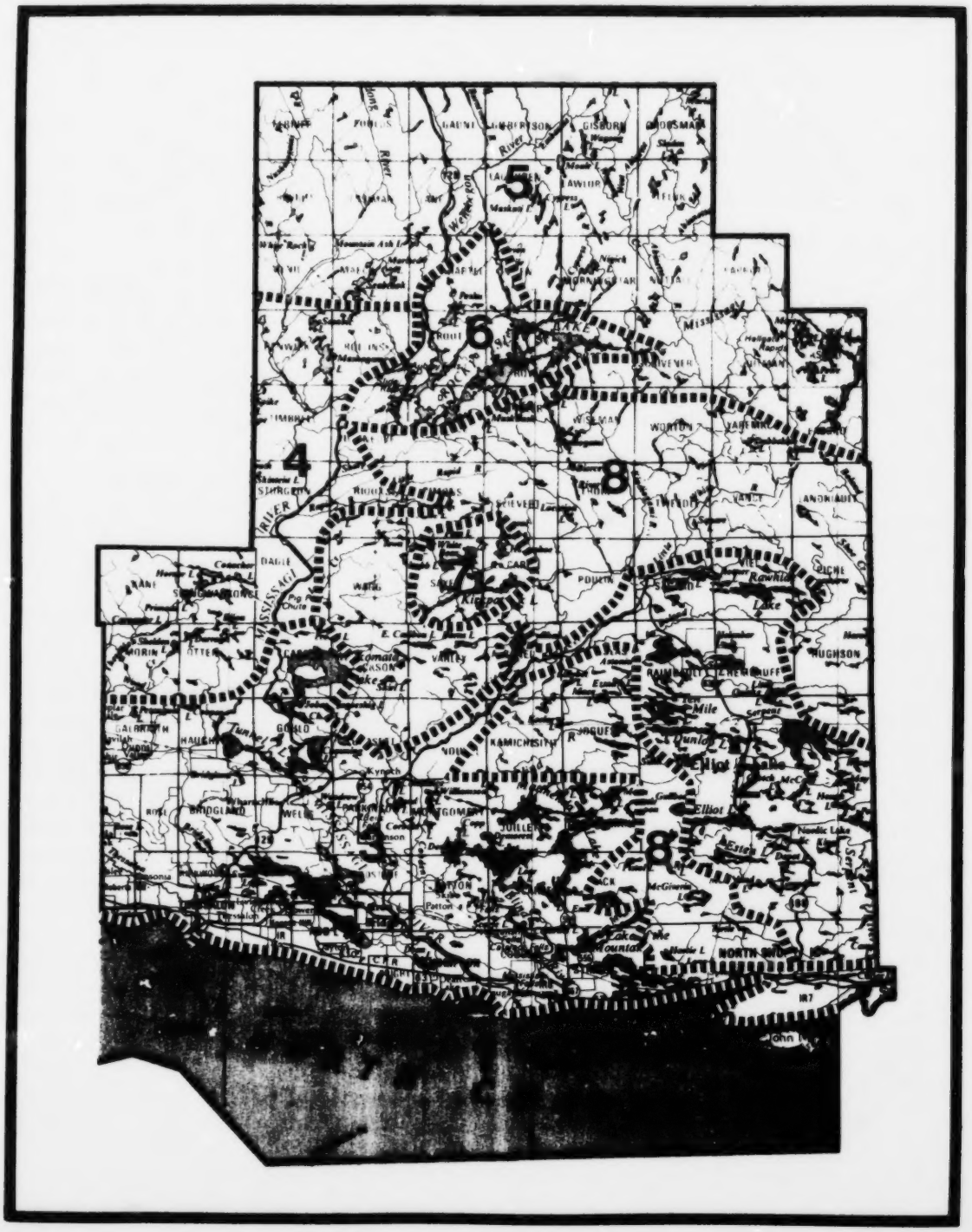
LEGEND

5 **FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ZONE**

N

Miles 10 0 10

Kilometres 10 0 10



Zone 3: Highways 17, Lower 546, 554, 555, 557 and Lower Highway 129 Corridors

The entire North Channel shoreline and block of land up to 25 miles wide located in the southern part of Blind River District makes up Zone 3. This zone is characterized by a great variety of waterbodies - from shallow, warm productive lakes (e.g. Bright Lake) to deep, cold and unproductive waterbodies (e.g. Basswood Lake). As a result, there exists a wide diversity of fish species in this zone. The majority of the District's walleye and smallmouth bass lakes are found here, as well as some of the largest lake trout lakes.

Zone 3 contains both the majority of the District's human population outside Elliot Lake and the highest proportion of patented land. In addition, virtually all the District's agricultural land and all Indian Reserves are found here. Mississagi Delta Provincial Park is also located within Zone 3. Access throughout the area is generally very good - either by road or water. Presently, the zone contains the majority of tourist lodges in the District. However, the local angler fishery is well developed and very important. Two major lakes were created in this zone as impoundments for hydro electric power generation.

Zone 4: Upper Thessalon River And Central Mississagi River Valley

Zone 4 is located centrally along the west boundary of Blind River District. The area is dominated by small, cold, unproductive lakes, providing habitat for brook and lake trout. Horner and Mashagama Lakes are the largest lakes found in this area. Land in this zone is primarily public land and as a result, there is little year round habitation. The eastern portion of Zone 4 is accessible by Highway 129, the southern portion by Carpenter Lake Road and the northern portion by Highway 556. Few commercial tourist lodges are found here; the area is used primarily by anglers from Sault Ste. Marie.

Although fishing pressure has not been as heavy as in some other areas of the District, there are a number of good quality brook trout lakes.

Zone 5: Aubinadong / Wenebegon / Abinette River Area

Zone 5 is comprised of the northernmost quarter of Blind River District. Waters in this zone are generally small, high in productivity, warm and shallow. The only exceptions occur in the Bark Lake area and some areas west of Highway 129. The predominant fish species found in Zone 5 is northern pike. Other species include whitefish, lake and brook trout. Over one half of the District's pike lakes are located here, but only 19 brook and lake trout lakes. This area, which is made up almost exclusively of public land, is the furthest removed from District population centres and is accessed by Highway 129 in the western half and a number of forest access roads (e.g. Hinckler) elsewhere. The largest number of fly-in outpost camps used for hunting and fishing are found in this zone. In general, use of this area has been relatively light.

Zone 6: Rocky Island Lake Area

Zone 6 is that area immediately surrounding and including Rocky Island, Aubrey and Peshu Lakes. It is located centrally in the northern most third of the District. The zone is predominated by warm productive waters with the major exceptions being parts of the Rocky Island Lake and all of Peshu Lake. Pike, walleye and lake trout are common fish species. Land in this zone is generally under public ownership with few exceptions.

Mississagi River Park enters the east end of the zone and Aubrey Falls Provincial Park is located on the western side. The area is relatively remote, however, access within the zone is good. Major lakes are also accessed by Highway 129 and a network of forest access roads. Historically, this area was used almost exclusively as a non-resident pike fishery. As a result of this and its remoteness from District populations, camping is more common than day use. Recent development of a walleye fishery has resulted in more equal levels of resident and non-resident use. Rocky Island and Aubrey Lakes are impoundment waters for hydro electric power generation.

Zone 7: Kirkpatrick Lake Area

Zone 7 is the smallest and most unique fisheries zone, and is located centrally within Blind River District. It is made up almost exclusively of lakes in the upper watershed of the West Little White River. The area is characterized by deep, clear, cold and unproductive lakes containing naturally reproducing populations of lake, brook and rainbow trout. This is the only zone in the District where all these species of trout are found to reproduce naturally within the same lakes. Land is primarily public land and although not far removed from the populated part of the District, the area currently contains no open public road access. Traditionally, access to this zone has been via aircraft, though recently snowmoblies and A.T.V.'s are more common.

Zone 8: Upper Little White River, Kindlogami River, Pathfinder, McGiverin Lakes and Caribou Creek Area

Zone 8 is very irregularly shaped and occupies the central and eastern part of Blind River District. Small lakes of low productivity containing lake and brook trout typify the area. It contains 288 brook and lake trout producing lakes but very few other species. Land ownership is almost exlusively public. The area is reasonably accessible to all population centres but access is especially good in the northern portion via Highway 546 and a number of forest access roads. Snowmobiles and A.T.V.'s have provided additional sources of access.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

1. General Fisheries Management Objective

   To protect, enhance, maintain and rehabilitate fish communities and their environment in order to provide an optimum contribution of fish, fishing opportunities and their associated benefits to society.

2. Specific Objectives and Targets

   (a) SPORT FISHING - The objective is to maintain opportunities for a diversified angling experience and meet the future demand for all species within the limits of sustained yield management.

   The target is to supply 152,700 kg/year of sport fish by the year 2000.

   (b) LAKE TROUT - The objective is to manage for the survival and maintenance of significant lake trout populations as well as the provision of angling opportunities.

(c) COMMERCIAL FISHING - The objective is to encourage the harvest of commercial fish populations when it is biologically and economically feasible.

The target is to maintain the current allocation of 298,206 kg of fish per year for Blind River District fishermen licensed to fish the waters of the North Channel.

The target for bait-fish is to increase the current harvest of 21,173 dozen to 23,700 dozen by the year 2000.

These targets, if approved in the final Fisheries Management Plan, will require an amendment to the District Land Use Guidelines targets.

MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

A number of strategies and tactics are available to address the problems and issues affecting the fisheries resource. The selected strategies and tactics appearing in Table 2 have resulted from a thorough analysis of available background information and the public consultation process.

The specific problems, strategies and tactics which apply to certain management zones are identified through placement of an "X" in the appropriate zone column. The strategies and tactics listed for each problem represent a combination of public acceptance, practicality, cost and technical soundness.

The implementation section of this plan indicates those strategies and tactics which will be used in the period 1989 to 1995.

TABLE 2 - PROBLEMS, STRATEGIES AND TACTICS WHICH APPLY TO SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT ZONES IN BLIND RIVER DISTRICT

PROBLEM: HABITAT LOSS OR DEGRADATION

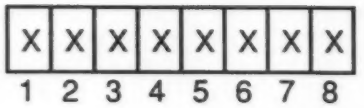
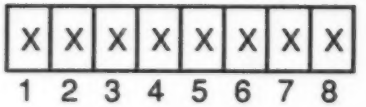
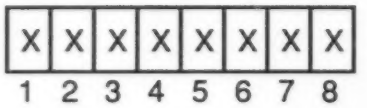
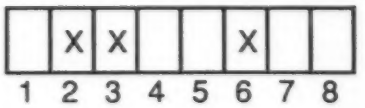
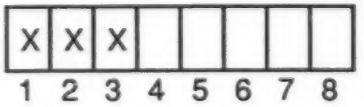
STATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(a) Protect Fisheries Habitat	1. Provide input to both internal and external plans and proposals (e.g. environmental assessments, severance and subdivision proposals, shoreline development proposals, timber management plans, road proposals, municipal plans, hydro electric development proposals, etc.)	
	2. Enforce existing legislation to prevent habitat degradation (e.g. Fisheries Act, Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, etc.)	
	3. Educate MNR staff, the general public and government at all levels regarding the importance of fish habitat by providing news releases, seminars and workshops.	
	4. Establish water flow agreements with Ontario Hydro and other development groups for sites such as Mississagi River below Red Rock Dam, Tunnel Lake; Mississagi River below Aubrey Dam and Rocky Island Lake.	
	5. Support MOE in the maintenance and imposition of treatment controls on various industrial and municipal effluents.	
	6. Register fish huts on lakes where they occur in large number, Matinenda and Dunlop Lakes.	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: HABITAT LOSS OR DEGRADATION

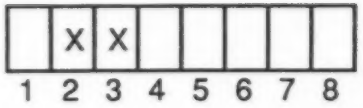
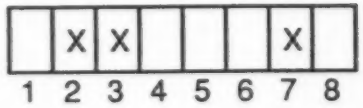
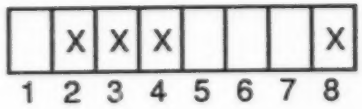
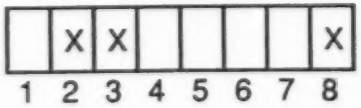
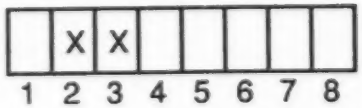
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(b) Improve Fisheries Habitat	1. Support MOE in developing and enforcing realistic tailings treatment measures and milling processes associated with uranium mining and ensure that water quality of Serpent River continues to improve.	
	2. Create new spawning areas. 1. Wanamaker Lake 2. Blind River (town) below dam 3. Serpent River adjacent to MTC picnic area 4. Skull Creek in Striker Township 5. White Bear Creek 6. Ompa Lake 7. Spur Lake	
	3. Establish MNR stream improvement projects 1. Little White River 2. Bridgland River 3. Thessalon River (Lower and Upper) 4. Lauzon Creek	
	4. Support projects by other agencies which improve fisheries habitat (i.e. spawning bed creation through pipeline stream crossings and bank stabilization projects on the Mississagi River by Ontario Hydro)	
	5. Encourage Community Fisheries Involvement Program (CFIP) projects which improve fisheries habitat, specifically in the following areas: - Blind, Bridgland and Thessalon Rivers - Skull and Lauzon Creeks	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: HABITAT LOSS OR DEGRADATION

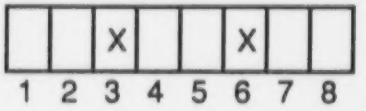
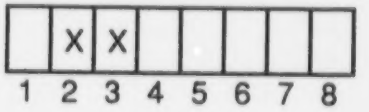
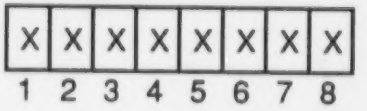
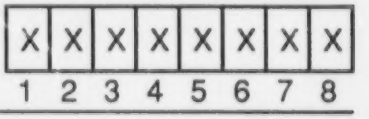
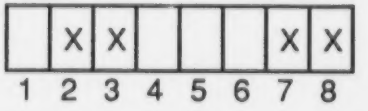
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	6. Explore ways that MNR and Ontario Hydro existing and future lake level operation and controls may be modified to improve spawning and nursery success, especially in areas where expansion is possible - existing dams are located in Blind River (MNR), Matinenda (MNR), Basswood (MNR), Chiblow (MNR), Wells-Rayner, Red Rock, Aubrey and Rocky Island (Ontario Hydro)	
	7. Require small hydro development groups to enhance or replace spawning beds so that developments result in no net loss of fish spawning habitat.	
(c) Inventory and Assess Fisheries Habitat	1. Identify and assess key fish habitat components on major lakes, rivers and streams. Priority should be given to those waterbodies where shoreline development or resource extraction is likely to occur	
	2. Survey new waters or update old lake surveys as necessary	
	3. Continue to work with the MOE to assess water quality in relation to fisheries in the Serpent River downstream of mining activities, acid stressed lakes in Zone 7 and 8	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

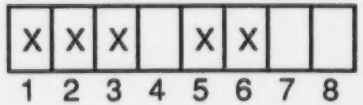
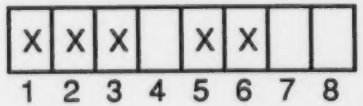
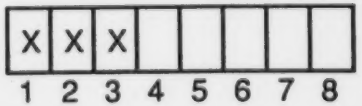
STRATEGY	**TACTICS**	**ZONES**
(a) Rehabilitate Former and Underproducing Fisheries to Provide Increased Angling Opportunities	1. Carry out stocking and rehabilitation work through regular MNR programs: North Channel (salmon and lake trout), Twin Lakes (walleye), Mountain Ash Lake (walleye), Serpent River (walleye), Quirke Lake (lake trout and walleye), McCabe Lake (lake and brook trout), May Lake (lake trout), Hough Lake (lake and brook trout), Pecors Lake (walleye and lake trout), McCarthy Lake (lake trout and walleye), Nordic Lake (lake trout), Camp Lake (walleye), Esten Lake (lake trout), Grassy Lake (walleye), Duborne Lake (walleye and lake trout), Bearhead Lake (walleye), Rocky Island Lake (lake trout), Dean Lake (walleye).	
	2. Conduct assessments of rehabilitation and stocking efforts using nettings and creel surveys so that tactics which are not working can be quickly identified. Priority should be given to those lakes listed in the above tactic.	
	3. Assess available spawning habitat in these waters, and if feasible, encourage spawning bed improvement as part of the CFIP - priority to above listed lakes (previous tactic) plus Chub and Jobammageshig Lakes.	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

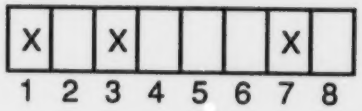
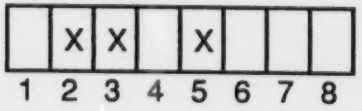
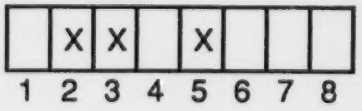
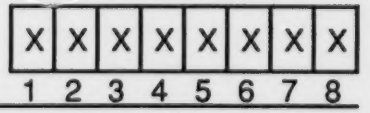
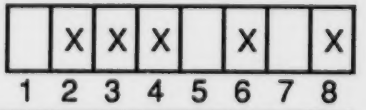
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	4. Assess feasibility of by-passing obstructions to fish passage in known spawning rivers and streams: Red Rock Dam, Mississagi River; Blind River Dam at Blind River; Little Rapids Dam, Bridgland River; and White Bear Creek.	
(b) Expand the Present Range of Walleye in the District through Introductions into New Waters	1. Conduct surveys to identify waterbodies suitable for walleye introductions (e.g. unsurveyed lakes in Zones 2 and 3 and in particular Zone 5 which appears to have the greatest potential).	
	2. Introduce walleye into suitable District waters by conducting MNR adult transfers of suitable stock or rearing and stocking of fry / fingerlings through MNR or CFIP programs: Appleby Lake, Emil Lake, Canoe Lake, Cullis Lake, Ryan Lake, Nigick Lake, Cypress Lake, Gib Lake.	
(c) Continue to Provide for Existing and Expanded Angling Opportunities Where Possible	1. Introduce sport fish to suitable waterbodies.	
	2. Continue the regular maintenance stocking program for those lakes which are clearly benefitting from stocking.	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

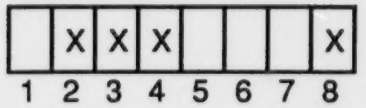
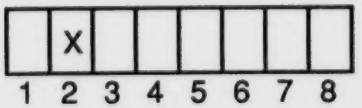
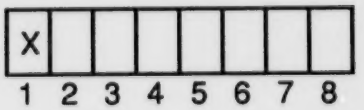
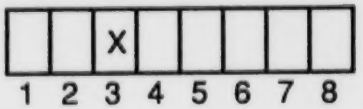
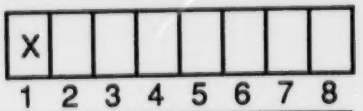
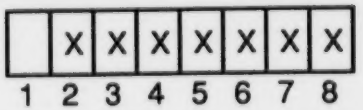
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	3. Continue the regular stocking of easily accessible lakes near population centres to provide put-delay-take fisheries for brook trout, rainbow trout and splake (e.g. rainbow trout in Ompa Lake)	
	4. Try an experimental combined planting of brook trout, rainbow trout and splake in Lake #23 (Hembruff Township) which is currently being managed as a put-delay-take brook trout fishery. Expand program if successful.	
	5. Encourage experimental stocking of additional species such as brown trout and / or Atlantic salmon in the North Channel and tributary rivers.	
	6. Stock at least three lakes with brown trout - Corbold Lake - McCreight's Lake - Christie Lake	
	7. Continue to co-operate with CFIP groups in stocking up to one million salmonids in the North Channel.	
	8. Continue surveys to identify waterbodies suitable for introductions of sports fish - emphasis shall be given to those lakes which are accessible.	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	9. Initiate rehabilitation plantings of lake trout and / or lake trout back-cross in the North Channel waters of Blind River District as soon as possible to provide increased angling opportunities.	X | | | | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	10. Encourage the development of adequate boat launching facilities in appropriate waters: 1. North Channel 2. Rocky Island 3. Basswood 4. Chiblow 5. Tunnel 6. Matinenda 7. Wakomata 8. Lauzon 9. Dunlop 10. Quirke	X X X | | | X | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	11. Establish assessment program to evaluate the extent to which lake stocking is meeting user demands - priority will be given to Zones 2 and 3	X X X X | X | X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	12. If E. A. approvals can be obtained, reclaim lakes which have been invaded by undesirable species and restock with desirable species in Gander and Foot Lakes.	X X X | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(d) Disperse Angling Pressure to Underused Lakes and / or Species	1. Promote increased access throughout the District to lakes which can withstand additional angling pressure.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Promote fishing of underused species such as northern pike, bass, perch, lake whitefish, etc. - District fisheries information should place greater emphasis on underused species.	X X X | X X | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

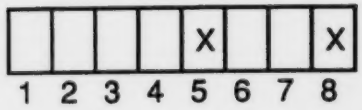
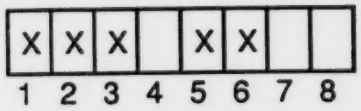
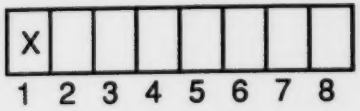
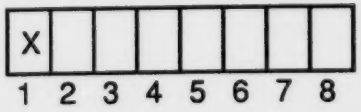
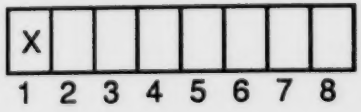
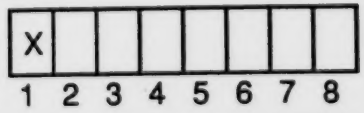
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	3. Encourage the development of fly-in tourist facilities on lakes where current pressure is low and "remote experience" can be maintained. Hamper, Mort, Mace and Rodge Lakes	
	4. Continue to provide or expand opportunities for alternate means of fishing, i.e. smelt and lake whitefish fishing with dip net and spear or bow and arrow fishing for coarse fish. - Dip net areas include Peshu Creek, Hinckler Creek, Marshland Creek, Lauzon Creek, Blind River, bow and arrow fishing in North Channel.	
(e) Manage the Commercial Fishery on a Sustained Yield Basis	1. Continue to set individual quotas by species to regulate harvest and adjust quotas to reflect expanding or declining stocks.	
	2. Work with the Lake Huron Fisheries Assessment Unit to obtain better biological data and population estimates on fish stocks and sustained yields for quota management.	
	3. Enforce commercial fishing related Acts and Regulations to ensure accurate reporting and ensure quotas are not exceeded.	
	4. Encourage the industry to experiment with and develop live capture gear and techniques that will allow more selective harvests.	

TABLE 2 (continued) **PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION**

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(f) Encourage the Commercial Harvest of Underused Species	1. Encourage the private sector development of new markets for underused species.	X | | | | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Continue an allocation of pink salmon to the commercial food fishery.	X | | | | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(g) Monitor Harvests of Sport Fish by all Users	1. Conduct aerial creel surveys on a standard set of District lakes to monitor changes in fishing pressure.	X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Monitor harvest by creel surveys of fisheries, especially those subject to high use: Dunlop, Matinenda, Kirkpatrick, Basswood, Chiblow-Denman, Semiwite and Jimchrist Lakes.	| X | X | | | | X | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Initiate voluntary creel programs with tourist outfitters and cottage associations: Duborne, Dunlop, Matinenda, Tunnel and Kirkpatrick Lakes.	| X | X | | | | X | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Monitor incidental catch of sport fish by commercial food fisheries.	X | | | | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(h) Implement Specific Regulations to Maintain Harvest at an Acceptable Level. Certain lakes may be regulated as Trophy Fisheries.	1. Kirkpatrick Lake Complex - (Duval, Kirkpatrick, Onedee, Robb, Townline and White Bear Lakes) Horner, Primeau, Conacher and Darragh. Open February 15 to March 15 and 3rd Saturday May to September 30. Kirk Lake - Open 3rd Saturday May to September 30 Summers Lake - open January 1 to April 30 Lauzon Creek - (part) open April 15 to July 31 Serpent River - (part) open January 1 to August 31	| X | X | X | | | X | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

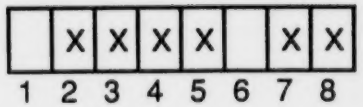
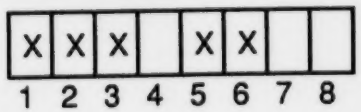
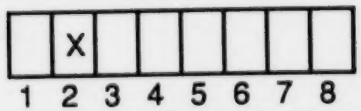
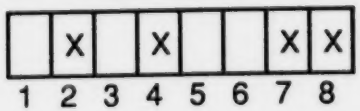
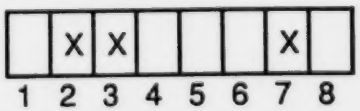
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	2. Prevent future overharvests of inland sport fish by prohibiting inappropriate access - Ten Mile, Rawhide, Little Quirke, Summers Lakes - Matinenda, Chiblow, Bay Lakes - Conacher, Horner, Sesabic Lakes - Kirkpatrick Lake Complex - McGiverin, Bark, Pathfinder, Mace, Lower Mace and East Caribou Lakes - Samreid, Dollyberry chain of lakes	
	3. Direct fishing pressure to alternate areas or fish species - North Channel - Newly developing walleye fisheries - Rocky Island and Aubrey Lakes - Pike, whitefish and new walleye fisheries	
	4. Establish experimental catch and release lake fisheries on Samreid and Helenbar Lakes.	
	5. Impose minimum size limits on - Saunders Lake - minimum size brook trout - Kindiogami Lake - minimum size lake trout - Kirk Lake - minimum size lake trout - Bolger Lake - minimum size brook trout	
	6. Reduce daily catch limits on - Elliot Lake - lake trout limited to 2 fish - Kirk Lake - lake trout - one fish	

TABLE 2 (continued) **PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION**

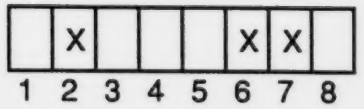
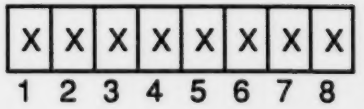
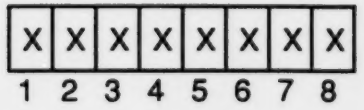
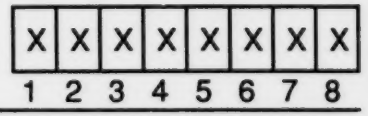
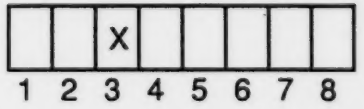
STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	7. Establish combined species catch limits for specific lakes 1. Kirkpatrick Lake - aggregate limit of 3 for lake trout and rainbow trout, except that no more than 2 may be lake trout. 2. Rocky Island Lake - aggregate limit of 5 for northern pike, walleye and lake trout, except that no more than 3 may be lake trout. 3. Endikai Lake - aggregate limit of 3 for lake trout and rainbow trout, except that no more than 2 may be lake trout.	
(i) Control Illegal Fish Harvest	1. Continue and enhance MNR enforcement program through: - press releases - maintenance of good relations with the media	
	2. Encourage public understanding of and participation in fisheries enforcement programs by using school visits and talks by staff to other groups.	
	3. Increase MNR enforcement capability by hiring two additional Conservation Officers.	
(j) Influence Lake Use on Sensitive Waterbodies Through the Plan Input and Review Process	1. Discourage additional private land development through objection to severances which would create additional lots on lakes susceptible to high cottager fishing pressure as in our current practice regarding Basswood Lake.	

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(k) Promote Non-consumptive Use of District's Fisheries Resource	1. Develop advertising program to promote non-consumptive fishery uses i.e. - press releases and talks to groups - introduction of this concept during school visits - press releases respecting catch and release fishery on Elliot Lake and catch and release in general	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Establish and advertise areas where public can view spawning runs of salmon. Mississagi River, Serpent River, Bridgland River	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Promote public tours of various CFIP projects (i.e. McColeman Hatchery)	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Establish information facilities at appropriate fish viewing locations - Serpent River at MTC Highway rest area - Bridgland River - McColeman Hatchery area - Mississagi River - Red Rock Dam - Iron Bridge	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued) **PROBLEM: UNDESIRABLE EXOTIC SPECIES INTRODUCTIONS**

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(a) Reduce Potential for Undesirable Exotic Introductions	1. Promote extensive public education of the potential dangers of exotic species introduction - education and enforcement emphasis directed towards the bait-fish industry.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Promote regulations against use of dead smelt as bait in the waters of Division 18.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Promote legislation in the waters of Division 18 prohibiting all transporting of live bait-fish, except bait-fish purchased from a licenced bait dealer. Bait must be caught on the lake on which you are fishing.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Co-operate fully with International Joint Commission in educating the public and enforcing regulations respecting fish introductions and sea lamprey control in the Great Lakes.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEMS: USER CONFLICTS

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(a) Ensure That Resource Users Have an Opportunity to Participate in Decisions Affecting Use of the Resource	1. Seek public participation in planning initiatives such as the fisheries management plan.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Continue and enhance monitoring of public and resource user opinions regarding fisheries management, problems and issues through field contacts and user questionnaires.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(b) Reduce Conflicts Between the Sport Fishery and the Commercial Fishery	1. Promote interaction and compromise between conflicting users.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Increase public understanding of the commercial fishing industry through public education programs.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Encourage the use of impounding gear in areas where non-target species are taken.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Promote the harvesting of coarse fish.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	5. Where conflict is for space, promote the posting at access points of fishing gear location to minimize mechanical interference.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	6. Where conflict is for fish, promote compromise which recognizes the needs of both groups.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued) **PROBLEM: USER CONFLICTS**

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
	7. Where conflicts are perceived, promote mutual understanding.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(c) Reduce Conflicts Between Tourism Industry and Resource Extraction Industries	1. Promote interaction and compromise between conflicting groups.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Resource extraction activities near tourism values should be placed and timed so as to minimize aesthetic impacts where it is feasible to do so.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Recognize the need for remote fly-in fishing opportunities in resource access planning.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Encourage greater tourist industry participation in the Timber Management Planning process.	X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(d) Reduce Conflicts Between Local Anglers and Tourist Industry	1. Promote interaction and compromise between conflicting users.	X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Establish regulations directed at promoting a high quality angling experience in tourism lakes. Kirkpatrick Lake Complex - fish sanctuary part of season.	X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(e) Reduce Conflict Between Summer and Winter Anglers	1. Establish summer sanctuary on Summers Lake - Open Season January 1 to April 30.	X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: USER CONFLICTS

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(f) Reduce Conflict Between Sport Fishermen and Native Fishermen	1. Negotiate with natives to constrain food fishing where conflict with other user groups is significant.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Allow Natives to take fish for food in designated areas without jeopardizing the stability of the fishery.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Actively discourage the unlicenced sale / barter of fish by natives through regular enforcement program.	X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Encourage natives to purchase sufficient commercial fish quota under the authority of a commercial fishing licence.	X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	5. Involve natives in fisheries management projects.	X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: LACK OF PUBLIC AWARENESS

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(a) Improve Communications and Public Education	1. Supply brochures and news releases which provide information about fisheries management, develop film library in District for loan to schools and groups.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Promote positive public attitude towards quality angling experiences as opposed to quantity angling experiences, include concept in school and public presentations.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Give talks on fisheries management to user groups.	X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Establish fisheries interpretive signs at significant fisheries access points.	X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
(b) Promote Public Involvement in Fisheries Management	1. Establish effective communication strategies regarding ongoing fisheries management.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Encourage participation in CFIP projects.	X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Promote higher profile of fisheries related topics in local media.	X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

TABLE 2 (continued)

PROBLEM: INADEQUATE FISHERIES INFORMATION

STRATEGY	TACTICS	ZONES
(a) Ensure that Fisheries Management Need for Information is Met	1. Conduct fishery user surveys.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	2. Review new information from MNR fisheries research, other Districts, Fisheries Assessment Units and outside agencies.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	3. Use experimental management - This is a concept for overall operation not a blueprint for any specific lake. The philosophy is that we should try new ideas and if they don't work, we should try something else.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	4. Assess stocking programs and fish populations through netting surveys and sampling commercial fish harvests (where applicable).	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	5. Conduct lake and stream surveys.	X X X X X X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	6. Communicate with Indian Bands to determine native harvest estimates.	X X X 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION - GENERAL

This section of the plan specifies those strategies and tactics which will be acted upon within the first operational period of the plan. In our case, this will be the period from 1989 to l995. Each year, work program plans will be prepared for the following year's projects through our normal budgeting process.

Our internal planning procedures ensure that fisheries projects and concerns are fully integrated into all areas of the Ministry of Natural Resources mandate. Programs such as timber harvesting, gravel extraction, Crown land disposition, etc., all occur with consideration and adaptation to the needs of the fishery resources.

The Ministry is committed to working co-operatively with various clubs, associations and groups in conducting projects that clearly benefit fisheries within the District. This allows concerned and dedicated members of our communities to get involved. Suggested projects for these people are indicated by the word "volunteer" in the funding column of the schedule.

Other government ministries, municipalities and the private sector, will be asked to review our work plans and proposals whenever possible. Since the implementation of this plan is subject to the Environmental Assessment Act, compliance may require changes to some tactics from time to time.

Changes may also result from new scientific knowledge or information gained from some of the projects themselves.

DUNLOP AND MATINENDA LAKES

The complexity of uses / issues and lack of concensus from the public respecting fisheries management direction on Dunlop and Matinenda Lakes, has resulted in our seeking further input to define future fisheries management on these two very important lakes.

Enclosed with this document (Appendix 2) are a refined series of options, based in part on the responses from the earlier public meetings. We intend to seek further concensus by asking you to return the completed option sheet. We will then proceed to make appropriate fisheries management decisions.

There was public support for the registering of fish huts on these two lakes and this is addressed on page 38 of this draft plan.

EXPLANATION OF FUNDING IN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Three types of funding categories are used when relating to the tactics that are being planned between 1989 and 1995. They are "existing", "additional" and "volunteer".

"EXISTING" is used when it is felt that the tactic can be accomplished with the level of funding the District is now receiving.

"ADDITIONAL" is used when it is felt that the tactic cannot be accomplished unless more funds are available. This also presumes that District staff will be actively seeking those "additional" funds.

"VOLUNTEER" is used when it is the District's intention to seek assistance from some group or association or individual to volunteer their time in the completing of the tactic. This could include resource user groups, deputy conservation officers, etc.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE - BLIND RIVER DISTRICT 1989 - 1995

TABLE 3

PROBLEM: HABITAT LOSS OR DEGRADATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
1. Establish water flow and lake level agreements with Ontario Hydro and other development groups including MNR control dams.	Mississagi River and impoundments. Section of Blind and Serpent Rivers affected by power development. Blind River, Matinenda, Chiblow and Basswood Dams	Existing	Habitat loss due to artificial water level control
2. Support MOE in the maintenance and imposition of treatment controls on various industrial and municipal effluents.	All affected waters	Existing	Potential habitat loss and degradation due to addition of harmful chemicals, etc.
3. Create new spawning areas.	Skull Creek in Striker Twp. Spur Lake in Esten Twp. Ompa Lake in Raimbault Twp. Blind River below dam in town Serpent River in Lewis Twp. adjacent to MTC picnic area	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer Additional Volunteer Additional	Shortage of walleye angling Deficient spawning habitat for brook trout Deficient spawning habitat for rainbow trout Shortage of walleye angling Lack of salmon spawning / viewing opportunities
4. Establish MNR stream habitat improvement projects.	Little White River Bridgland River Lauzon Creek	Additional Additional Volunteer Additional Volunteer	Lack of Salmonid spawning / viewing opportunities Lack of salmonid spawning / viewing opportunities
5. Establish regulation requiring registration of fish huts.	Dunlop and Matinenda	Existing Existing	More ability to establish responsibility for refuse left on ice and thus better able to control

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
1. Carry out stocking and rehabilitation work for walleye and lake trout.	<u>Lake Trout / Lake Trout Backcrosses</u> North Channel <u>Walleye</u> Mountain Ash, Serpent River, Pecors, Camp and Bearhead Lakes <u>Lake Trout</u> Quirke, May, McCabe, Hough, Nordic, Esten and Rocky Island Lakes	Additional Volunteer Existing	Shortage of lake trout angling opportunities Shortage of walleye and lake trout angling opportunities
2. Conduct assessments of rehabilitation and stocking efforts using nettings and creel surveys so that tactics which are not working can be quickly identified.	<u>Walleye</u> Mountain Ash, Serpent River, Pecors, Camp and Bearhead Lakes <u>Lake Trout</u> Quirke, May, McCabe, Hough, Nordic, Esten and Rocky Island Lakes	Existing	Lack of fisheries information
3. Assess available spawning habitat in these waters and if feasible, encourage spawning bed improvement as part of CFIP.	Pecors, Bearhead, Duborne and Chub Lakes, Thessalon River	Volunteer	Degraded walleye spawning habitat
4. Assess feasibility of bypassing obstruction to fish passage in known spawning rivers and streams.	Red Rock Dam on Mississagi River	Additional	Underutilized habitat on Little White River

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
5. Conduct surveys to identify waterbodies suitable for walleye introductions.	Zone 2 - Hope and Gourd Zone 3 - Maple Leaf, Cherry, Bay, Lake 16 (Scarfe Twp.) Red Zone 5 - Sixcee, Bajoras, Alf, Maskuti, Rover, Margaret Ann, Sladen, Pirate, Poison, Slater, Rock Candy, Hinckler, Lind, Embarass, Quartz, Grub, Stew, Florence, Upper Medicine and Lake 50 in Lane Twp.	Existing (2 lakes per year) Additional (Remainder)	Shortage of walleye angling opportunities
6. Introduce walleye into suitable District waters by conducting MNR adult transfers of suitable stock or rearing and stocking of fry / fingerlings through MNR or CFIP programs.	Appleby, Canoe, Cullis	Existing	Shortage of walleye angling opportunities
7. Continue the regular maintenance stocking program for those lakes which are clearly benefitting from stocking especially easily accessible lakes near population centres.	<u>Brook Trout</u> Banana, Barr, Bawden, Beavertail, Bernard, Beyond, Bhynmine, Bolgers, Brock, Bruce, Burden, Burtt, Clara, Grain, Daisy Mae, Dolan, Dubbelewe, Dunn's, Dyelle, Elephant, Emerson, Finger, Flag, Flying Goose, Footprint, Frigid Digit, Gashen, Gibby, Goodlookin, Heal, Helenbar, Henderson, Hidden, Hook, Hough, Hyslop, Ivan's, Jackpine, Jimmy #2, Kindiogami River, Kyle, Lake #23 (Hembruff Twp.), Lake #1 (Raimbault Twp.), Lake #11 (Raimbault Twp.), Lake #18 (Otter Twp.), Lake #2 (Lewis Twp.), Lake #3 (Proctor Twp.), Lake #33 (Sturgeon Twp.), Lake #10 (Rioux Twp.), Lake #35 (Rioux Twp.), Lake #36 (Rioux Twp.), Lake #27 (Sturgeon Twp.), Lake #28 (Rioux Twp.), Lees, Lefroy, Lelonde, Link, Little Rapids, Little White, Lolligag, Loon, Lucille, Manydace, Maybe, McCabe, McCreight's, McFadden, Mink, Nopeer, Otter, Oval, Paquette, Passion, Pinepark, Pistol, Rainbow, Reception, Red, Rheume, Rock, Rodge, Runaway, Runway, Salvage, Sawbill, Seven Camp, Snafu, Snare, Snowbug, South, Spur, Starfire, Tee, Thorp, Upahill, Walkaround	Existing	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
7. (continued)	Lake Trout Army, Burnt, Byrnes, Chub, Cobre, Depot, Esten, Fox, Grandeur, Hough, Jobammageeshig, Magog, May, McCabe, Pathfinder, Peak, Pearl, Petaguin, Primeau, Quimby, Quirke, Rocky Island, Seymour, Skirl, Spence, Starfire, Thurston, Woodrow Splake Claim, Ellisam, Jimmy #1, Plump, Spot, Upper Mace, Wanamaker, Belle, Brown, Boundary, Boyer, Carpenter, Damn, Gander, Harry, Horne, Cinder, Lake #28, Square, Wilkie Rainbow Trout Bridgland River, Flag, Minnow, Moon, Ompa, Portelance, Prospect, Rainbow, Semiwite		
8. Try an experimental combined planting of brook trout, rainbow trout and splake, expand program if successful.	Lake # 23 - Hembruff Twp.	Existing	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas
9. Encourage experimental stocking of brown trout and / or Atlantic salmon in the North Channel and tributary rivers. **Note:** This would require a change in Provincial policy.	Brown Trout - Bridgland River, Thessalon River Atlantic Salmon - Lower Mississagi, Little White Rivers	Volunteer Additional	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas
10. Stock two lakes with brown trout	Corbold Lake McCreight's Lake	Existing Volunteer	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas
11. Continue to co-operate with CFIP groups in stocking salmonids.	North Channel of Lake Huron	Existing	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
12. Continue surveys to identify waterbodies suitable for introductions of sports fish - emphasis shall be given those lakes which are accessible.	District wide	Existing (2 lakes per year) Additional (Remainder)	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas Lack of fisheries information.
13. Introduce species to suitable waterbodies.	Any lakes which are identified through the aquatic habitat inventory program (see above)	Existing Additional (depending on species)	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas
14. Assess lakes which are stocked to evaluate success of program.	Lakes to be chosen from stocking list	Existing (4 lakes per year) Additional (Remainder)	Shortage of angling opportunities especially in easily accessible areas
15. Reclaim lakes which have been invaded by undesirable species and restock with desirable species, if E.A. approval can be obtained.	Foot Lake	Additional	Stunted perch population which prevents brook trout survival
16. Identify and assess key fish habitat components on major lakes, rivers and streams.	Significant lakes, streams and rivers which are or may be impacted by development	Additional	Lack of knowledge of key fish habitat i.e. spawning areas, nursery areas, etc.
17. In conjunction with land management branch encourage the development of fly-in tourist facilities on remote lakes where current pressure is low and other uses are not in serious conflict.	Primarily Zones 4 - 8	Existing	Poor distribution of angling pressure

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
18. Encourage the commercial fishing industry to experiment with and develop live capture gear and techniques that will allow more selective harvests.	North Channel 1 Project in 1988 / 89	Additional	Reducing conflict between user groups as large scale stocking of salmonids in North Channel progresses
19. Monitor harvest by fishermen especially in those lakes subject to high use.	Dunlop, Matinenda, Kirkpatrick, Basswood, Chiblow, Semiwite, Jimchrist Lakes, North Channel	Additional Volunteer	Lack of objective or current knowledge of fisheries
20. Initiate voluntary creel programs with tourist outfitters and cottage associations.	Initiate with Duborne expand if successful to Matinenda and Dunlop	Existing Additional	Inadequate fisheries information
21. Conduct aerial creel surveys every 5 years on standard set of lakes to monitor changes.	Selected representative District lakes (about 20)	Additional	Lack of objective knowledge of fisheries
22. Designate selected waters as fish sanctuaries.	Waters - Open Season Horner, Primeau, Conacher, Kirkpatrick, Whitebear, Robb, Onedee, Townline and Duval - Feb 15 - Mar 15 incl. 3rd Sat. May - Sept. 30 incl. Kirk - 3rd Sat. May - Sept 30 incl. Summers - Jan 1 - Apr. 30 incl. Darragh - Feb 15 - Mar 15 incl. 3rd Sat. May - Sept. 30 incl.	Existing	Unacceptable decline in quality of angling Spawning fish susceptible to poaching

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
22. (continued)	Lauzon Creek - (part of) (from dam to railroad bridge) Apr. 15 - July 31 incl. Serpent River - starting at a point 100 m. downstream from the Highway 17 bridge, down the river for a distance of approx. 1500 M. to the next bridge Jan. 1 - Aug. 31 incl.		
23. Access road changes which may result in harm to fisheries will be reviewed on a case by case basis and may be closed to public travel.	District wide	Existing	Unacceptable decline in quality of angling
24. Continue to direct angling pressure to underutilized lakes and fisheries.	District wide	Existing	Poor distribution of angling pressure
25. Establish catch and release fishing on two lakes and use these lakes as examples for developing other catch and release fisheries.	Samreid, Helenbar	Existing Volunteer	Unacceptable decline in quality of angling
26. Impose minimum size limits for lake trout on Kindiogami and Kirk Lake.	Kirk Lake (LeCaron Twp.) 22" (56 cm) minimum size Kindiogami Lake - 18" (45 cm) minimum size	Existing	Unacceptable decline in quality of angling

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
27. Reduce daily catch limit for lake trout to one fish.	Kirk Lake (LeCaron Twp.)	Existing	Unacceptable decline in quality of angling
28. Establish combined species catch limits.	Kirkpatrick Lake - aggregate limit for lake trout and rainbow trout of 3 in one day except that no more than 2 may be lake trout Rocky Island Lake - aggregate limit for northern pike, walleye and lake trout of 5 in one day except that no more than 3 may be lake trout	Existing	Shortage or decline of quality angling experience
29. Discourage additional private land development through objection to severances which would create additional lots on lakes susceptible to high cottager fishing pressure.	Big Basswood Lake	Existing	Decline of quality lake trout angling
30. Establish and advertise areas where public can view spawning runs of salmon.	Serpent River - Lewis Twp. Bridgland River - Thessalon Twp.	Existing Volunteer	Lack of knowledge of fishery resources and lack of opportunity for nonconsumptive use of resource
31. Promote public tours of various CFIP projects.	McColman Hatchery	Existing Volunteer	Lack of knowledge of fishery resources and lack of opportunity for nonconsumptive use of resource
32. Emphasize and promote nonconsumptive fishery uses through public relations especially during school visits.	Throughout district	Existing	Lack of knowledge of fishery resources and lack of opportunity for nonconsumptive use of resource

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: EXPLOITATION

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
33. Promote catch and release fishing throughout the District using public education. Press releases respecting a "This Is How To Do It" catch and release fishing demonstration on Elliot Lake.	Demonstration only using Elliot Lake	Existing Additional Volunteer	Decline of quality angling experiences
34. Establish information facilities at appropriate fish viewing locations.	Serpent River - MTC Highway rest area Bridgland River near McColman Hatchery	Additional Additional Volunteer	Lack of public knowledge and appreciation of fishery
35. Encourage public understanding of and participation in fisheries enforcement programs during school visits and talks by staff to other groups.	Minimum of 2 school visits per year for each Conservation Officer (District wide)	Existing	Lack of understanding of fisheries resources

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: UNDESIRABLE EXOTIC SPECIES

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
1. Promote regulations against use or possession of dead smelt as bait.	Division 18 which includes all inland district waters and beyond	Existing	Spread of smelt, a generally undesirable fish in inland waters which can eliminate desirable fish
2. Promote legislation prohibiting all transporting of live bait-fish, except bait-fish purchased from a licenced bait dealer. Bait must be caught in the lake on which you are fishing.	Division 18 which includes all inland district waters and beyond	Existing	Spread of generally undesirable species such as bullheads, rock bass, dog fish, etc. which severely reduce or eliminate more desirable game fish
3. Co-operate fully with International Joint Commission in educating the public regarding introductions of exotic species in the Great Lakes.	North Channel	Existing	Spread of generally undesirable species such as sea lamprey, river ruff, etc.
4. Promote extensive public education of the potential dangers of exotic species introduction - education and enforcement emphasis directed towards the bait-fish industry.	District wide	Existing	Extensive damage being caused to sports fish populations by introductions of undesirable fish, such as suckers, bullheads, etc.

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: USER CONFLICTS

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
1. Promote interaction and compromise between conflicting users.	District wide	Existing	Lack of understanding between users
2. Encourage the use of impounding gear in areas where non-target species are taken in significant numbers.	North Channel	Existing Additional	Conflict between sports fishermen and commercial fishermen
3. Where conflict is for space, promote the posting at access points of fishing gear location to minimize mechanical interference.	Ports on North Channel	Existing	Sport fishing equipment becomes entangled in commercial gear
4. Recognize the need for remote fly-in fishing opportunities in resource access planning.	Remote areas of District	Existing	Expanding road network is unintentionally shrinking the opportunities for a fly-in fishing trip to the extent that it may disappear as an option for local anglers, tourists, and tourist operators

TABLE 3 (continued)

PROBLEM: LACK OF PUBLIC AWARENESS

TACTICS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1989 - 1995	DISTRICT LOCATION	FUNDING	PROBLEM ADDRESSED
1. Give talks on fisheries management to user groups.	District wide - clubs, school, etc.	Existing	Lack of public awareness of value of fisheries resource
2. Use exhibits or interpretive programs at fairs and parks.	District wide - clubs, schools, etc.	Existing (current level) Additional (expansion)	Lack of public awareness of value of fisheries resource
3. Establish fisheries interpretive signs at significant fisheries access points.	Matinenda Lake, Dunlop, Flack	Existing Additional	Lack of public awareness of value of fisheries resource
4. Encourage participation in CFIP projects.	District Wide	Existing Additional	Lack of public awareness of value of fisheries resource
5. Promote higher profile of fisheries related topics in local media.	Local media	Existing	Lack of public awareness of value of fisheries resource
6. Supply brochures and news releases which provide information about fisheries management. Develop film library in District for loan to schools and groups.	District wide	Additional	Ignorance respecting fisheries management can result in introductions of destructive species, etc.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The Ministry of Natural Resources is committed to public consultation. Through it we receive ideas which can lead to more effective and efficient resource management. Furthermore, public consultation can help resolve contentious problems and issues.

Having had the opportunity to review this document, we would like to solicit any thoughts or suggestions you may wish to offer. Please take some time to complete the questionnaire which accompanies this document. This may be your last opportunity to influence the content of the final approved plan.

After considering the input received at this stage, we will be writing the final plan and submitting it to the Regional Director for approval.

REFERENCES

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GLOSSARY

ALLOWABLE YIELD: The weight of fish which can be safely removed from a body of water on a yearly basis.

ANGLER DAY: For the purpose of planning, this represents one angler fishing for four hours.

BAITFISH: Any fish that are harvested and used for angling.

COARSE FISH: Fish other than commercial fish, sport fish or baitfish.

COLDWATER LAKES OR RIVERS: Lakes or rivers that do, or could, support a salmonid specie.

COMMERCIAL FISH: Any fish for which a quota has been issued to the commercial fish industry.

IMPOUNDMENT: Waters contained or held back by a dam.

LAKE TROUT BACKCROSS: A fast growing, early maturing fish that is 3/4 lake trout and 1/4 brook trout. It is being stocked in Lake Huron.

OBJECTIVE: An identifiable and attainable end which the Ministry's efforts are intended to achieve.

PUT - DELAY - TAKE: To stock fish in the lake or stream and allow for a period of growth prior to harvesting.

REHABILITATION: Returning a fish community or habitat to a state which approximates the best historic situation.

SALMONID: Any of the salmon or trout species.

SPORTFISH: Any fish that are sought after and legally caught by anglers.

STRATEGY: Planned actions or measures to achieve a desired end.

TACTIC: A method devised to achieve one or more strategies.

TAILINGS: Waste materials usually associated with a mine / milling process.

TARGET: A quantified end to be achieved within a stated time frame or by a stated date.

WARMWATER LAKES OR RIVERS: Lakes or rivers other than coldwater lakes or rivers.

WORK PLAN: A plan prepared annually to indicate what management activities will be carried out in the immediate following year.

APPENDIX 1: LAKE TROUT LAKES BY CLASSIFICATION - BLIND RIVER DISTRICT

CLASS A1 LAKES — **EXCELLENT POPULATIONS OF NATURALLY REPRODUCING LAKE TROUT 100% CROWN OWNERSHIP OF SHORELINE**

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
ALTO	BUCKLES	LEAR	SCARFE
BAY	TIMMERMANS	LILLYBET	NICHOLAS
BEVANS	SAGARD	LITTLE QUIRKE	BOUCK
BIG	KAMICHISITIT	LITTLE SISTER	PICHE
BIG TROUT	SLIEVERT	LIZOTTE	JOUBIN
BIJOU	OTTER	LOWER MACE	JOGUES
BLACK	LECARON	LUCAS	BUCKLES
BLUE SKY	SAGARD	MATHER	BOLGER
BOBOWASH	RAIMBAULT	MCGIVERIN	MCGIVERIN
BOLAND	FABBRO	MOCCASIN	LANDRIAULT
BOUNDARY	JUILLETTE	OLYMPUS	NICHOLAS
BOUNDARY	ROLLINS	OUELLETTE	BUCKLES
CAMPOVER	PICHE	PATHFINDER	JOGUES
CASPER	RIOUX	PEAK	MACK
CHRISTMAN	RAIMBAULT	QUIMBY	BOLGER
COBRE	SAGARD	RAWHIDE	VIEL
COFFEE	TIMMERMANS	RIVER	THORPE
CORMIER	BUCKLES	ROBB	SAYER
CREAM	TIMMERMANS	ROCHESTER	BUCKLES
CROSS	ROYAL	ROGERS	JACKSON
CRYSTAL	TWEEDLE	ROOSTER	HUGHSON
DAYSTAR	WINKLER	ROSEMARIE	PICHE
DESAYEUX	OTTER	SAMREID	RAIMBAULT
DOLLYBERRY	RAIMBAULT	SEMIWITE	HEMBRUFF
DUBBLEWE	YAREMKO	SESABIC	RENWICK
DUVAL	SLIEVERT	SISTER	PICHE
EAST CARIBOU	VARLEY	SKINTENT	STURGEON
EZMA	NICHOLAS	STOVER	SAYER
FIN	SIMONS	SUMMERS	BEANGE
FULLERTON	RAIMBAULT	TEASDALE	BUCKLES
GIBBERY	RAIMBAULT	TENFISH	SAGARD
GREBE	HUGHSON	TOODEE	SIMONS
GREY TROUT	VIEL	TOWNLINE	SAYER
GULLBEAK	BOLGER	TURTLE	SPRAGGE
HORSESHOE	LECARON	VASSEAU	SAGARD
KEELOR	KAMICHISITIT	WHITEBEAR	SAYER
KIRK	LECARON	WHITE ROCK	MCNIE
LAKE #23	HUGHSON	WILSON	VARLEY
LAKE #25	VIEL		
LAKE #27	ROOT		
LAKE #73	YAREMKO		

APPENDIX 1: LAKE TROUT LAKES BY CLASSIFICATION - BLIND RIVER DISTRICT
(continued)

CLASS A2 EXCELLENT POPULATIONS OF NATURALLY REPRODUCING LAKES LAKE TROUT SOME PRIVATE SHORELINE PROPERTY

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
BASSWOOD	DAY	HORNER	SHINGWAUKONCE
BIERCE	THORPE	KINDIOGAMI	WISEMAN
BIG MOON	TIMMERMANS	KIRKPATRICK	LECARON
BURNS	VARLEY	LAUZON	LONG
CHIBLOW	SCARFE	MASHAGAMA	RENWICK
CUMMING	GOULD	MATINENDA	MACK
DARRAGH	OTTER	MEWBURN	WINKLER
DENMAN	MONTGOMERY	PESHU	ROOT
DUNLOP	BEANGE	PRIMEAU	SHINGWAUKONCE
ELLIOT	GUNTERMAN	RACKEY	KAMICHISITIT
EMERALD	MACK	SLIPPER	GUNTERMAN
ENDIKAI	ALBANEL	TENMILE	BEANGE
EVANS	BOUCK	WAKOMATA	CASSON
FLACK	RAIMBAULT	WILLIAMSON	MONTGOMERY
GRANARY	MACK		

CLASS B1 FAIR NATURALLY REPRODUCING POPULATIONS OR POPULATIONS LAKES DEPENDANT UPON STOCKING
100% CROWN OWNERSHIP OF SHORELINE

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
ALEXANDER	HUGHSON	LAKE #21	SLIEVERT
ALLEN	HUGHSON	LAKE #27	HUGHSON
APPLESAUCE	HUGHSON	LAKE #3	VILLENEUVE
ARCHIBALD	FOULDS	LAKE #34	BUCKLES
ARMY	YAREMKO	LAKE #34	FERRIER
BARK	ASSAD	LAKE #35	ROOT
BEAVER	BEANGE	LAKE #41	OTTER
BEECHER	MONTGOMERY	LAKE #51	VANCE
BILTON	VIEL	LAKE #8	SLIEVERT
BOOMERANG	WINKLER	LAKE #9	PICHE
BREWER	FABBRO	LITTLE DOBIE	ALBANEL
CANYON	JOUBIN	LONG	ALBANEL
CASTRA	VARLEY	LONG	WISEMAN
CONACHER	SHINGWAUKONCE	LONGHAUL	LANDRIAULT
CRAZY	NICHOLAS	LOST CANOE	RAIMBAULT
CROSBY	MONTGOMERY	MARSH	BEANGE
DEPOT	ESTEN	MAY	JOUBIN
DOBIE	ALBANEL	MCCABE	JOUBIN
DOEHEAD	WINKLER	MCCARTHY	PROCTOR
DOLLAR	RIOUX	MCCLUNG	VILLENEUVE
DOUGALL	LECARON	MOUNTAIN	BEANGE
DUCK	JUILLETTE	NARVIK	VARLEY
DUTHORNE	BOUCK	NINA	HUGHSON

APPENDIX 1: LAKE TROUT LAKES BY CLASSIFICATION - BLIND RIVER DISTRICT
(continued)

CLASS B1 LAKES **FAIR NATURALLY REPRODUCING POPULATIONS OR POPULATIONS DEPENDANT UPON STOCKING**
100% CROWN OWNERSHIP OF SHORELINE

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
ELBOW	ALBANEL	NORSE	MACK
ESS	WISEMAN	POLAR BEAR	HEMBRUFF
LAKE #20	HUGHSON	POTHOLE	PICHE
FREDDIE'S	WISEMAN	REGAN	ALBANEL
FRIDAY	ROYAL	ROCKY	KAMICHISITIT
GAFF	NICHOLAS	ROTTIER	VIEL
GEM	BEANGE	SAILOR TROUT	VANCE
GRANDEUR	ESTEN	SHELDON	MORIN
GREEN	BEANGE	SPRING	BEANGE
HAMMER	PICHE	STAR	FABBRO
HAT	POULIN	STRINGER	VARLEY
HESS	JUILLETTE	SURVEY	HEMBRUFF
HYPHEN	BEANGE	SUSAN	HUGHSON
JOHNNIE'S	WINKLER	THREE LAKES	WARDLE
KINGS	PROCTOR	TWIN LAKES	VANCE
LABELLE	ROOT	UPPERMOST	LANDRIAULT
LADEROUTE	SPRAGGE	WAGONG	GISBORN
LAKE #11	BUCKLES	WOLFE	HEMBRUFF

CLASS B2 LAKES **FAIR NATURALLY REPRODUCING POPULATIONS OR POPULATIONS DEPENDANT UPON STOCKING**
SOME PRIVATE SHORELINE PROPERTY

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
AXE	GOULD	HOUGH	JOUBIN
CHUB	GOULD	JOBAMMAGEESHIG	GOULD
CONSTANCE	PARKINSON	MOUNT	SAGARD
COOPER	HAUGHTON	QUIRKE	BUCKLES
DUBORNE	STRIKER	PETAGUIN	GALBRAITH
ESTEN	ESTEN	SEYMOUR	RIOUX
HASTIE	LONG	WOODROW	WELLS

APPENDIX 1: LAKE TROUT LAKES BY CLASSIFICATION - BLIND RIVER DISTRICT
(continued)

CLASS C LAKES **POOR LAKE TROUT POPULATIONS**

LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP	LAKE NAME	TOWNSHIP
BERGEN	VARLEY	PIPE	HAUGHTON
BEYOND	WORTON	PORTELANCE	TWEEDLE
BOUNDARY	LECARON	REGAL	VARLEY
BRIDGE	VARLEY	ROCKY ISLAND	ROYAL
BYRNES	BRIDGLAND	SCARFE	SCARFE
EAST TWIN	VARLEY	SEABROOK	MAECK
GUSTY	BEANGE	SHOEPACK	LANDRIAULT
HIGHLAND	JACKSON	SHOOKUM	GALBRAITH
ICKTA	GALBRAITH	SKUNK	VIEL
LITTLE PICKEREL	GRASETT	TOOBEE	THORPE
MARSHLAND	ESTEN	TOOSEE	SLIEVERT
MOONSHINE	VANCE	WATERHOLE	VARLEY
MUSKWASH	WINKLER	WILKIE	RAIMBAULT
ONEDEE	SAYER		

APPENDIX 2

DUNLOP LAKE BACKGROUND

Dunlop is a large lake (l,099 ha.), located approximately 10 km north of the community of Elliot Lake. It is a complex lake with a long shoreline (over 43 km), numerous islands and several distinct basins. It has four commercial operations on it which cater to the lake users and has numerous year round homes and cottages on the east end of the lake. The sport fishery is for lake trout, walleye and smallmouth bass. Lake trout are by far the most frequently caught fish. They are relatively easy to catch and are available legally for nine months of the year. During the winters of 1981 and 1982, 1,743 lake trout were checked at the Dunlop Lake Landing - no walleye were recorded. Of the lake trout checked, 521 (30%) were reported caught on Dunlop Lake. Although walleye and bass are taken during the open water season, we do not feel that those populations are under pressure to the same extent that the lake trout are.

Dunlop is the single most important recreational lake and fishery for the citizens of Elliot Lake.

During the winter, several other lakes are accessible from Dunlop, particularly Summers, Pathfinder, Lower Mace, Keelor, Upper Mace and Ten Mile and depending on travel conditions, the pressure is spread out. During the open water period, Ten Mile is the only lake which significantly acts as a pressure overflow from Dunlop Lake. The portage is short and many boats are kept at the Ten Mile end. When considering management options for Dunlop Lake, it is impossible to ignore the potential effects on these other lakes, especially Ten Mile.

APPENDIX 2 (continued)

DUNLOP LAKE

Please fill in the blanks if you want to comment further on Dunlop Lake. Fill in only those which are important to you.

TACTIC SUGGESTED	SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT
1. Fine-tune the operation of the dam to best suit the needs of the fish. This would mean that in some situations people's concerns would come second. (No additional cost)	☐	☐
2. Shorten the fishing season		
(a) shorten the winter season	☐	☐
(b) shorten the summer season	☐	☐
(c) shorten both (These aren't very costly)	☐	☐
3. Reduce the limit on lake trout to two (this is the fish most likely to be overfished). (This option wouldn't be very costly)	☐	☐
4. Change the regulation respecting what angling gear is legal		
(a) no downriggers allowed	☐	☐
(b) one line in winter (Both not very costly)	☐	☐
5. Intensely monitor the harvest of sports fish, especially lake trout so that up to date information is available (2 ways of doing this)		
(a) MNR funded creel, summer and winter (this is costly - probably one-man/year but provides reliable information)	☐	☐
(b) Volunteer creel where users report their catch. (This is less costly than (a) but is also less reliable)	☐	☐

APPENDIX 2 (continued)

		SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT
6.	Combined species regulation such as "combined catch limit of lake trout, smallmouth bass and walleye of 5, no more than 2 of which may be lake trout." Others may be considered. (Not very costly to implement)	☐	☐
7.	Introduce a catch and release rule for Dunlop lake trout requiring all fish except for one to be released. (This could be moderately costly as some catch and release seminars should be held)	☐	☐
8.	Introduce a lake trout slot size limit or a minimum size limit. This can be custom made to protect the prime breeders. (Not very costly)	☐	☐

APPENDIX 3

MATINENDA LAKE

Matinenda Lake, at 3,865 ha, is the second largest lake in the District after Rocky Island and is located just north of Blind River at the end of Highway 557. It is a complex lake with four very distinct large basins and several smaller basins. It has numerous islands and approximately 107 km of shoreline. It has several lodges serving lake users and dozens of private cottages.

The sport fishery was traditionally lake trout and smallmouth bass but someone illegally introduced pike and smelt in the last couple of decades and the fishery is undoubtedly still adapting to those major changes. Lake trout are by far the most sought after fish and make up the vast majority of the catch. The creel information gathered to date does not indicate an over-harvest situation. The complexity and diversity of the habitat coupled with the limited access (only one access point) have probably worked to protect the lake trout from over-use.

Matinenda is by far the single most important lake for the residents of Blind River.

Concern has been expressed by individuals and groups that the continued increase in use of the lake, especially for lake trout fishing, is having a negative impact on the fishery and the quality of the experience.

It is within this framework of information and perception that the following options are presented for your review and comment.

APPENDIX 3 (continued)

MATINENDA LAKE

Please fill in the blanks if you want to comment further on Matinenda Lake. Fill in only those which are important to you.

TACTIC SUGGESTED		SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT
1.	Fine-tune the operation of the MNR dam to best suit the needs of the fish. This would mean that people and their docks, water lines, etc. would come second. (Requires no additional cost)	☐	☐
2.	Prevent any further access development to the lake - all things being equal the higher quality the access the lower quality the fishery. (Cost here is minimal)	☐	☐
3.	Shorten the fishing season		
	(a) shorten the winter season	☐	☐
	(b) shorten the summer season	☐	☐
	(c) shorten both (These aren't very costly)	☐	☐
4.	Reduce the limit on lake trout to two - this is the fish most likely to be overfished. (This option wouldn't be very costly)	☐	☐
5.	Intensely monitor the harvest of sports fish, especially lake trout, so that up to date information is available (two ways of doing this)		
	(a) MNR funded creel, summer and winter (this is costly - probably one-man /year but provides reliable information)	☐	☐
	(b) Volunteer creel, where users report their catch (this is less costly than (a) but is also less reliable)	☐	☐

APPENDIX 3 (continued)

		SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT
6.	Change the regulation respecting what angling gear is legal		
	(a) no downriggers allowed	☐	☐
	(b) one line in winter (Both not very costly)	☐	☐
7.	Combined species regulation such as "combined catch of lake trout, smallmouth bass and pike of 5, no more than 2 of which are lake trout". Others may be considered. (Not very costly to implement)	☐	☐
8.	Introduce a catch and release rule for Matinenda lake trout requiring all fish except for one to be released. (This could be moderately costly as some catch and release seminars should be held)	☐	☐
9.	Introduce a lake trout slot size limit or a minimum size limit. This can be custom made to protect the prime breeders. (Not very costly)	☐	☐